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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER	
YOUNG, JANELLE N	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2618	

DATE MAILED: 08/25/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/788,715	GUNARATNAM ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Janelle N. Young	2618	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ____ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *27 February 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-32* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-32* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *27 February 2004* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and **should not repeat information given in the title**. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: the word “faciliat” (Page 22, para 1, line 4) is misspelled the word should read “facilitate”. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Abrahamson et al. (US Patent 2004/0109431).

As for claim 1, Abrahamson et al. teaches a network selection method for a mobile station, comprising:

selecting and operating with a communication network (Abstract; Page 2, para 0015; and Page 7, para 0089);

after regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the communication network, or after powering on from a power-off state (Page 3, para 0040-0042; Page 4, para 0053-0054; and Page 5, para 0070), performing the following acts of:

scanning to identify a plurality of communication networks in a coverage area within which the mobile station is operating; if a home communication network of the mobile station is identified as being available by the scanning, selecting and operating with the home communication network; and otherwise, if the communication network is

identified as being available by the scanning, continuing operation with the communication network (Abstract; Page 4, para 0046; Page 6-7, para 0085; and Page 7, para 0087).

As for claim 2, Abrahamson et al. teaches a network selection method for a mobile station, wherein the communication network comprises a Registered Public Land Mobile Network (RPLMN) during the method (Page 3, para 0041 and Page 4, para 0054).

As for claim 3, Abrahamson et al. teaches a network selection method for a mobile station, wherein the home communication network comprises a Home Public Land Mobile Network (HPLMN) of the mobile station (Page 5, para 0066-0068 & 0072 and Page 6, para 0074 & 0083).

As for claim 4, Abrahamson et al. teaches a network selection method for a mobile station, further comprising: otherwise, if the communication network is identified as being unavailable by the scanning, selecting and operating with an alternate communication network based on a prioritized network list (Page 2, para 0026 and Page 5, para 0067).

As for claim 5, Abrahamson et al. teaches a network selection method for a mobile station, wherein the act of scanning comprises receiving a Mobile Country Code (MCC) and Mobile Network Code (MNC) pair for each communication network available in the coverage area (Page 5, para 0066).

As for claim 6, Abrahamson et al. teaches a network selection method for a mobile station, wherein the communication networks are operative in accordance with

Global Systems for Mobile Communications (GSM) (Abstract; Page 1, para 0003; and Page 3, para 0031 & 0040).

As for claim 7, Abrahamson et al. teaches a mobile station, comprising:

a wireless transceiver; an antenna coupled to the wireless transceiver (Page 6, para 0081-0082);

one or more processors coupled to the wireless transceiver (Page 6, para 0083 and Page 7, para 0091);

the one or more processors being configured to select a communication network with which to communicate by:

selecting and operating with a communication network (Abstract; Page 2, para 0015; and Page 7, para 0089);

after regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the communication network, or after powering on from a power-off state (Page 3, para 0040-0042; Page 4, para 0053-0054; and Page 5, para 0070), performing the following acts of:

scanning to identify a plurality of communication networks in a coverage area within which the mobile station is operating; if a home communication network of the mobile station is identified as being available by the scanning, selecting and operating with the home communication network; and otherwise, if the communication network is identified as being available by the scanning, continuing

operation with the communication network (Abstract; Page 4, para 0046; Page 6-7, para 0085; and Page 7, para 0087).

Regarding claim 8, see explanation as set forth regarding claim 2 (network selection method claim) because the claimed mobile station would perform the network selection method steps.

Regarding claim 9, see explanation as set forth regarding claim 3 (network selection method claim) because the claimed mobile station would perform the network selection method steps.

Regarding claim 10, see explanation as set forth regarding claim 4 (network selection method claim) because the claimed mobile station would perform the network selection method steps.

Regarding claim 11, see explanation as set forth regarding claim 5 (network selection method claim) because the claimed mobile station would perform the network selection method steps.

Regarding claim 12, see explanation as set forth regarding claim 6 (network selection method claim) because the claimed mobile station would perform the network selection method steps.

As for claim 13, Abrahamson et al. teaches a communication system, comprising:

a first communication network; a second communication network; one or more mobile stations which are operable with the first and the second communication networks (Page 2, para 0015 and Page 7, para 0089);

the one or more mobile stations having the second communication network designated as a home communication network (Page 5, para 0066 with respect to Page 7, para 0089);

the one or more mobile stations being operative to:

selecting and operating with a communication network (Abstract; Page 2, para 0015; and Page 7, para 0089);

after regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the communication network, or after powering on from a power-off state (Page 3, para 0040-0042; Page 4, para 0053-0054; and Page 5, para 0070), performing the following acts of:

scanning to identify a plurality of communication networks in a coverage area within which the mobile station is operating; if a home communication network of the mobile station is identified as being available by the scanning, selecting and operating with the home communication network; and otherwise, if the communication network is identified as being available by the scanning, continuing operation with the communication network (Abstract; Page 4, para 0046; Page 6-7, para 0085; and Page 7, para 0087).

Regarding claim 14, see explanation as set forth regarding claim 2 (network selection method claim) because the claimed communication system would perform the network selection method steps.

Regarding claim 15, see explanation as set forth regarding claim 3 (network selection method claim) because the claimed communication system would perform the network selection method steps.

Regarding claim 16, see explanation as set forth regarding claim 4 (network selection method claim) because the claimed communication system would perform the network selection method steps.

Regarding claim 17, see explanation as set forth regarding claim 5 (network selection method claim) because the claimed communication system would perform the network selection method steps.

As for claim 18, Abrahamson et al. teaches a network selection method for a mobile station, comprising:

receiving a user input for manually selecting a communication network for the mobile station; selecting and operating with the manually-selected communication network in response to the user input (Page 5, para 0069-0070 and Page 7, para 0088);

after regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the communication network, or after powering on from a power-off state (Page 3, para 0040-0042; Page 4, para 0053-0054; and Page 5, para 0070), performing the following acts of:

scanning to identify a plurality of communication networks in a coverage area within which the mobile station is operating; if a home communication network of the mobile station is identified as

being available by the scanning, selecting and operating with the home communication network; and otherwise, if the communication network is identified as being available by the scanning, continuing operation with the communication network (Abstract; Page 4, para 0046; Page 6-7, para 0085; and Page 7, para 0087).

As for claim 19, Abrahamson et al. teaches a network selection method for a mobile station, wherein the home communication network comprises a Home Public Land Mobile Network (HPLMN) of the mobile station.

As for claim 20, Abrahamson et al. teaches a network selection method for a mobile station, wherein the communication network comprises a Registered Public Land Mobile Network (RPLMN) during the method.

As for claim 21, Abrahamson et al. teaches a network selection method for a mobile station, wherein the communication networks are operative in accordance with Global Systems for Mobile Communications (GSM).

As for claim 22, Abrahamson et al. teaches a network selection method for a mobile station, further comprising:

in response to the visual input prompt, receiving a user input for manually selecting the home communication network; and in response to the user input, registering and operating with the home communication network (Page 5, para 0069-0070 and Page 7, para 0088).

As for claim 23, Abrahamson et al. teaches a mobile station, comprising:

a user interface (Fig 1a-c:**150a-c** and Page 7, para 0088);

a wireless transceiver; an antenna coupled to the wireless transceiver (Page 6, para 0081-0082);

one or more processors coupled to the wireless transceiver (Page 6, para 0083 and Page 7, para 0091);

the one or more processors being configured to provide for the selection of a communication network by:

receiving a user input for manually selecting a communication network for the mobile station; selecting and operating with the manually-selected communication network in response to the user input (Page 5, para 0069-0070 and Page 7, para 0088);

after regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the communication network, or after powering on from a power-off state (Page 3, para 0040-0042; Page 4, para 0053-0054; and Page 5, para 0070), performing the following acts of:

scanning to identify a plurality of communication networks in a coverage area within which the mobile station is operating; if, as identified from the scanning, the home communication network is available: causing a visual input prompt to be displayed for manual selection of the home communication network (Abstract; Page 4, para 0046; Page 5, para 0069-0070; Page 6-7, para 0085; and Page 7, para 0087-0088); and

if, as identified from the scanning, the communication network is available and a home communication network of the mobile station is unavailable: continuing operations with the communication network (Page 5, para 0067-0070).

Regarding claim 24, see explanation as set forth regarding claim 19 (network selection method claim) because the claimed mobile station would perform the network selection method steps.

Regarding claim 25, see explanation as set forth regarding claim 20 (network selection method claim) because the claimed mobile station would perform the network selection method steps.

Regarding claim 26, see explanation as set forth regarding claim 21 (network selection method claim) because the claimed mobile station would perform the network selection method steps.

Regarding claim 27, see explanation as set forth regarding claim 22 (network selection method claim) because the claimed mobile station would perform the network selection method steps.

As for claim 28, Abrahamson et al. teaches a communication system, comprising:

a first communication network; a second communication network; one or more mobile stations which are operable with the first and the second communication networks (Page 2, para 0015 and Page 7, para 0089);

one or more processors coupled to the wireless transceiver (Page 6, para 0083 and Page 7, para 0091);

the one or more processors being configured to provide for the selection of a communication network by:

receiving a user input for manually selecting a communication network for the mobile station; selecting and operating with the manually-selected communication network in response to the user input (Page 5, para 0069-0070 and Page 7, para 0088);

after regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the communication network, or after powering on from a power-off state (Page 3, para 0040-0042; Page 4, para 0053-0054; and Page 5, para 0070), performing the following acts of:

scanning to identify a plurality of communication networks in a coverage area within which the mobile station is operating; if, as identified from the scanning, the home communication network is available: causing a visual input prompt to be displayed for manual selection of the home communication network (Abstract; Page 4, para 0046; Page 5, para 0069-0070; Page 6-7, para 0085; and Page 7, para 0087-0088); and

if, as identified from the scanning, the communication network is available and a home communication network of the

mobile station is unavailable: continuing operations with the communication network (Page 5, para 0067-0070).

Regarding claim 29, see explanation as set forth regarding claim 19 (network selection method claim) because the claimed communication system would perform the network selection method steps.

Regarding claim 30, see explanation as set forth regarding claim 20 (network selection method claim) because the claimed communication system would perform the network selection method steps.

Regarding claim 31, see explanation as set forth regarding claim 21 (network selection method claim) because the claimed communication system would perform the network selection method steps.

Regarding claim 32, see explanation as set forth regarding claim 22 (network selection method claim) because the claimed mobile station communication system the network selection method steps.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Johannesson et al. (US Patent 2002/0119774) teaches a method for selecting a public land mobile network to serve a mobile station includes the step of receiving at the mobile station a list of data associated with networks neighboring the PLMN currently

serving the mobile station. A new PLMN to serve the mobile station is selected based upon the list of data, and the mobile station changes to the selected new PLMN.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Janelle N. Young whose telephone number is (571) 272-2836. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday: 8:30 am through 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nay Maung can be reached on (571) 272-7882. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Quochien B. Vuong 8/14/06

JNY
August 10, 2006

QUOCHIEN B. VUONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER